

POISONING FROM A CANTHARIDAL BLISTER (*Gazette des Hôpitaux*, 1884, No. 128).—Dr. Lautri, being attacked with pleurisy, applied, himself, two large blisters to his chest, anteriorly and posteriorly. Poisonous symptoms followed. The skin became warm, and covered with profuse perspiration, then cold; frightful headache; slight convulsions and delirium followed; severe pain in epigastrium and hypochondrium. There was also vomiting of a glairy, then bloody matter. He had a feeling of intense heat in the region of the bladder, but no erections, nor frequent desire to urinate. The acute stage lasted nine hours. Dr. Lautri remarks that poisoning by cantharides from blistering is very rare, and that his case differs from others in that genito urinary symptoms, which all writers describe as peculiar to cantharides, were absent, while symptoms of excitation general of the nervous system predominated; there were no symptoms of satyriasis and of priapism. The least noise, light, and the sound of the voice sufficed to bring on a spasm.

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ACONITINE IN NEURALGIA (*Gazette des Hôpitaux*, 1885, No. 11).—Dr. Th. Guibert strongly renews the claims of aconitine for neuralgia. Its physiological action recommends it in the first place as a remedy. In neuralgia of the trigeminus the effects of the drug are truly marvellous, according to G. He cites a case of Nelaton's, in which the latter had resected all the branches of the nerves without effect. He was then about to remove the Gasserian ganglion, when, on the recommendation of Prof. Gubier, aconitine was given instead. At the end of a short time the patient was so well that he described himself as being in paradise. As some persons are very sensitive to the drug, G. recommends beginning with very minute doses, at long intervals, viz.: giving pills containing two fifths of a milligramme three times a day. If no amelioration follows this dose, it may be increased one pill a day till six are given in the twenty-four hours. If diarrhœa is produced the dose should be diminished.

MORTON PRINCE, M.D.

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#### BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

Text-Book of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology, by John J. Reese, M.D. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son, & Co., 1884.

Insanity and Allied Neuroses: Practical and Clinical, by George H. Savage, M.D., M.R.C.P. (with 19 Illustrations). Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea's Son & Co., 1884.

Transactions of the Medical Society of Pennsylvania. Vol. XVI. 1884.

Sleep-Walking and Hypnotism, by D. Hack Tuke, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P. (Lond.). Philadelphia: P. Blakiston, Son, & Co., 1884.

Shakespeare as a Physician, by J. Portman Chesney, M.D. St. Louis : J. H. Chambers & Co., 1884.

Comparative Physiology and Psychology, by S. V. Clevenger, M.D. Chicago : Jansen, McClurg, & Co., 1885.

A Treatise on Ophthalmology, for the General Practitioner, by Adolf Alt, M.D. Chicago : J. H. Chambers & Co., 1884.

Therapeutics, Materia-Medica, and Toxicology, by H. C. Wood, M.D. *Fifth* edition. Philadelphia : J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1883.

Medical Rhymes, Selected, etc., by Hugo Erichsen, M.D. Chicago : J. H. Chambers & Co., 1884.

Inaugural Address, N. Y. Academy of Medicine, by A. Jacobi, M.D. (Reprint from *Medical Record*, February 14, 1885.)

The Toner Lectures: Lecture IX., Mental Overwork and Premature Diseases among Public and Professional Men, by C. K. Mills, M.D. Washington : Smithsonian Institution, January, 1885.

Ueber einen Fall von Zerstörung des linken Schlafelappens durch Geschwulstbildung ohne aphasische Störungen ; Linkshändigkeit, by Prof. C. Westphal. Separat-Abdruck aus der *Ber. kl. Wochenschr.*, 1884. No. 49.

Sulla Malattia del Friedreich (Atassia Locomotrice Ereditaria), Note cliniche de Dott. Giuseppe Musso. Estratto dal *Giornale la Rivista Clinica*, Ottobre, 1884.

The 114th Annual Report of the State of the New York Hospital and Bloomingdale Asylum, for the Year 1884.

Memoir on the Nature of Diphtheria, by Drs. H. C. Wood and H. F. Formad, Philadelphia. Appendix A, Report of the National Board of Health for 1882.

International Med. Congress. Rules and Preliminary Organization of the Ninth Session to be held in Washington, D. C., in 1887.

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#### FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

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Annales Médico-Psychologiques.

Archives de Neurologie.

Archivio di Psichiatria Scienze.

Archiv. fuer Anatomie u. Physiologie.

Archiv. fuer die Gesammte Physiologie der Menschen (Pflüger).

Archiv. fuer Psychiatrie und Nervenkrankheiten.

Allgemeine Zeitschrift für Psychiatrie.

Berliner Klinische Wochenschrift.

Brain.

British Med. Journal.

Canada Medical Record.